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city, but because of the long-continued dry season there has been a marked shortage in the water supply, and people will soon have to obtain a supply from sources other than the city waterworks, which undoubtedly increases the danger.

The mortality returns of the colony for the month of January, 1902, show that there were 369 deaths during the month, a percentage mortality of 14.9 per 1,000 per annum, excluding the army and navy. The percentage mortality among the British and foreign population was 20 per 1,000, and among the Chinese population 14.7 per 1,000 per annum.

Of the total deaths reported, 40 were due to diarrhea, 7 to dysentery, 1 to bubonic plague, 30 to malaria, 17 to beriberi, 12 to heart lesions, 26 to bronchitis, 42 to pneumonia, 55 to phthisis pulmonalis, and 10 to diseases of the digestive system. During the first two months of last year 20 deaths were due to bubonic plague, while only 2 occurred during January and February of this year. In anticipation of the annual plague epidemic, extensive disinfecting procedures have been carried on throughout the city for several weeks with the view of lessening the severity of the epidemic, which is almost sure to develop with the advent of the warm, rainy season.

Respectfully,

JOHN W. KERR,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Plague conditions at Yeung Kong and Shuitung—Canton free.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, D. C., April 5, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith, for your information, a copy of a dispatch received from the consul of the United States at Canton, China, in regard to the plague at Yeung Kong.

Respectfully,

JOHN HAY,
Secretary of State.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

[Inclosure.]

CANTON, CHINA, *February 19, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit to you the following copy of a communication received to-day from Dr. Dobson, American Presbyterian Mission, concerning plague conditions at Yeung Kong and Shuitung in Kwangtung:

“YEUNG KONG, P. O.,
Kwangtung, China, February 10, 1902.

“SIR: In response to your letter of January 25, regarding the existence of plague in this vicinity, I have the honor to submit the following:

“The district of Yeung Kong is situated about 150 miles west of Hongkong, running along the seacoast for about 60 to 80 miles and stretching inland about 40 to 50 miles. Yeung Kong is the largest town, having about 40,000 inhabitants. The city is walled. The streets are roughly paved with stone and the lack of sanitary precautions is self-evident as in all other towns and villages in this section.

“Shuitung is a town on the coast at the extreme southwest of this district. This place has quite a maritime trade, mostly local. This is a noted plague spot, the disease being practically endemic, over 300 deaths having occurred in the past few weeks.

“At the present time plague is prevalent and on the increase in both of these towns. I can not speak as to the country villages, except to say that a majority of the smaller ones seem to be free from the disease. Here in Yeung Kong City the plague has made its appearance in the city prison, there having been 60 or more deaths in the past month. The prison is a pesthouse of filth, and the gutters on the adjacent streets are masses of foul, black offal.

"Thus far this season I have not been called to a case of plague, and the disease does not yet appear to be increasing here. The form prevailing at the prison is the abdominal variety. There have been no dead rats found at any of the houses where I have visited.

"As to treatment pursued in past years, I may say that I have simply followed the leading of reports and journals but with no success. The Chinese have no treatment.

"I trust to be able to give a more useful report within the coming months.

"Any reports or circulars relating to the plague will be acceptable and useful and I ask that such may be sent me if possible.

"Respectfully,

"W. H. DOBSON,
Surgeon, A. P. M."

HON. ROBERT M. MCWADE,
United States Consul, Canton.

On February 16, 1902, I cabled the following summary of the foregoing:

"SECRETARY OF STATE, *Washington, D. C.*: Plague increasing Shuitung, over 60 deaths Yeung Kong; Canton free.—MCWADE."

I am, indeed, glad to be able to add that the plague has not yet appeared either in Canton or its immediate vicinity.

Respectfully,

ROBERT M. MCWADE,
United States Consul.

HON. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

Cholera epidemic at Honan.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, D. C., April 10, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to advise you for the information of the U. S. Marine-Hospital Service that the Department is in receipt of a telegram from the consul of the United States at Canton, China, which reads as follows: "Cholera epidemic at Honan, almost disappeared Canton."

Respectfully,

JOHN HAY,
Secretary of State.

HON. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

CUBA.

Reports from Cienfuegos, Casilda, and Santa Cruz del Sur.

CIENFUEGOS, CUBA, *March 31, 1902.*

SIR: Through the chief quarantine officer for the island of Cuba, I have the honor to forward the following weekly report of transactions in the district under my command, for the week ended March 29, 1902:

Fifteen deaths have occurred in this city. Of these, 2 occurred in the civil hospital. No contagious diseases reported. Causes of death as follows: Enteritis, 3; tuberculosis, 3; sclerosis, arterial, 2; cancer, 1; old age, 1; gastro-enteritis, 1; hypertrophy of the heart, 1; peritonitis, 1; pneumonia, 1, and bronchitis, 1. Death rate per 1,000 inhabitants, 19.55.

One of the 2 patients left in hospital, this city, from the battleship *Indiana*, was shipped to the United States on the steamship *Segurança*, March 26. This patient was suffering from syphilis. Fourteen vessels were inspected, passed, and granted pratique; 3 vessels admitted without inspection; 1 vessel (the U. S. S. *Dolphin*) boarded and passed; 20 bills of health issued vessels leaving this port, and 8 alien steerage passengers inspected and allowed to land.

Casilda.—Acting Asst. Surg. Alejandro Cantero reports 5 deaths in the city of Trinidad. No contagious diseases reported. Eleven vessels inspected, passed, and granted pratique; 11 bills of health issued vessels leaving port of Casilda, and no alien steerage passengers landed at that port.